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AW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Miyuki SASAKI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2177

Appl. No. : 09/764,991

Examiner: S. CHANNAVAJALA

Filed : January 23, 2001

For : DATA STORAGE MEDIUM, DATA RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING METHOD, AND DATA RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AUG 0 6 2003
Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the instant application on April 24, 2001, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the Examiner's attention:

In an International Preliminary Examination Report dated March 9, 2001, for corresponding International Application No. PCT/JP99/03950, the following documents, which were not cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the instant application on April 24, 2001 and in connection with an International Search Report for the same corresponding International Application, are brought to the Examiner's attention:

(1) Austrian Patent No. 4577396, which is a patent family member of European Patent Application No. EP 730274 A2, published September 4, 1996 and was previously cited in the instant application. Applicants note that the Austrian patent is not available at the time of filing this statement, however, an English language Abstract of the same is attached hereto.

(2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 8-273334, published October 10, 1996, which is a patent family member of European Patent Application No. EP 730274 A2, published September 4, 1996 and was previously cited in the instant application.

(3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 3-86975, published April 11, 1991, which is a patent family member of U.S. Patent No. 5,210,734 to SAKURAI, issued May 11, 1993 and was previously cited in the instant application.

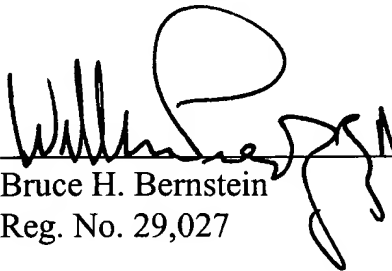
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form, which is also attached hereto. A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report is also enclosed. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

P20481.A03

Applicants note that no new information is being called to the Examiner's attention, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Miyuki SASAKI et al.

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August 4, 2003
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